

A Note from the Mayor:

This report was distributed to City Council on January 2, 2007. While this report is **not** all-inclusive, it does give you a highlight synopsis of the many events and activities involving the Mayor and his role in our community during the past year. I trust that by reading this report you will see that I enjoy being an active, involved Mayor representing Troy, Ohio USA. Thank you for allowing me this opportunity.

- Mayor Beamish

Michael Beamish
Mayor



City of Troy

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January 2, 2007

Mr. William F. Lohrer, President
Members of Troy City Council
City Hall
Troy, Ohio

Dear Mr. Lohrer and Council Members:

The law governing a statutory city in the State of Ohio requires the Mayor to present an annual report at the first meeting of the New Year. In accordance with this law, I present my report for 2006, my third year as Mayor of the City of Troy, Ohio.

During 2006, I performed 36 marriages. No receipts were turned into the Auditor's Office, as I did not accept payment for any of these weddings. However, the wedding couples were encouraged to make a donation to either Dollars for Scholars or The Future Begins Today. The donations that came through this office totaled \$1,500.00, which were divided between both of these organizations (\$910.00 to Dollars for Scholars and \$590.00 to The Future Begins Today). I also required a meeting with each bride and groom prior to scheduling their wedding. This meeting was to make sure that I was comfortable with the couple and likewise, they were comfortable with me performing the ceremony. During the year, marriages were performed in my office, at Duke Park, Hayner Cultural Center, private residences, and other locations in Miami County. Being permitted to perform a marriage is an honor granted to the Mayor. I take this solemn privilege very seriously.

My first proclamation of the year was for the anniversary of the Redman's Lodge. During 2006 there were 18 additional proclamations.

I participated in 46 ribbon cuttings and grand openings. These ceremonies were enjoyed in conjunction with the Ambassadors of the Troy Area Chamber of Commerce.

During the year I attended numerous meetings including regular Council, Council Committee, Planning Commission, The Workforce Policy Board of Miami and Shelby Counties, and Troy Main Street. I also served as Chairman of the Mayor's International Council, Mayor's Downtown Roundtable, and our Scarlet and Gray Committee. I have taken an active role in the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission, and the Mayors and City Managers Organization.

Letters and notes were written to local citizens, staff, and other elected officials; also requiring my signature were numerous Resolutions, Ordinances, bid awards, oaths of office, cemetery deeds, and investments.

I worked with Superintendent Tom Dunn to arrange a luncheon at each Troy City School building to meet with respective leadership groups. This same opportunity has been extended to the Troy Christian Schools. This is a refreshing way to meet our young people and listen to their thoughts. I plan for this to continue into 2007.

Thanks to Steve Dunne and Joe Weaver from Troy Public Access Television 9, we were able to continue a weekly report on the activities of the City. Also, thanks to Joe Neeves of WPTW Radio Station, the weekly radio broadcasts were continued again this year. We have had quite a bit of positive feedback regarding the broadcasts on Troy Public Access Television 9, and WPTW Radio Station. I feel we presented the citizens of Troy with a better understanding of the various departments and the workings of the City. Under the guidance of Steve Dunne, Joe Weaver and Joe Neeves, we are planning to continue these broadcasts in 2007.

I maintain a positive working relationship with the Auditor's Office. Under the direction of City Auditor Richard Cultice we continue to receive our high financial rating through fiscal responsibility. We are all quite proud of our exemplary City Auditor and his staff.

I met with my cabinet regularly to discuss current issues and projects. The Cabinet consists of: the President of Council, the City Auditor, the Director of Public Service and Safety, and the Administrative Assistant/Clerk of Council.

January was the beginning of my third year as Mayor of this great City, and a time to look back at my first two years to reflect and think about what an exciting learning experience this continues to be. The Redman's Lodge requested my presence at their milestone anniversary celebration. This was not only an evening of fun and festivities, but an evening of reflection and remembrance.

In February, I was a part of the selection committee for the Strawberry Festival Parade Grand Marshall, and I participated in the Strawberry Festival Kickoff. I was also able to assist the Mayor's Youth Council in serving lunch at St. Patrick's Soup Kitchen, which is an experience that was both rewarding and a lot of fun.

March started with my participation in "Story Time" at the 405 Building. As a retired elementary school principal, interacting with young people is very important to me. Also in March, I attended a Special Olympics dinner at the Troy Masonic Temple. The Special Olympics Program is a program that I fully support. I was honored to be asked to throw the first pitch at the Special Olympics baseball tournament that was held at Duke Park. The State of the City Report was also held in March. This is an event that I look forward to attending each year, as it provides an opportunity to report the happenings of the City to the Citizens of Troy. March closed with my attendance at the 60th Anniversary of Hobart Ground Power; another momentous and well deserved celebration.

In April, I was a part of the Trade Mission to Japan. We visited several companies that have plants operating in Troy, and some that we hope will locate to Troy in the near future. April 29 was the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast. This is always a very beautiful event. I was also given the privilege of doing the coin toss at the beginning of a couple of the Miami Valley Silverback football games.

The Relay for Life was held in May, an event of which I always participate and support. Cancer survivors are true survivors, and it is my hope that one day, a cure can be found. On May 13, I experienced one of the proudest moments of my life. My daughter graduated from college. As I know I have said many times, education is essential for our youth; they will one day be taking care of us. On May 25 I participated in the ground breaking for American Honda, Inc. This business keeps growing, which is truly exciting for Troy. Also in May, we held the second semester DARE Graduations. This event is always exciting for the children. Our Resource Officers do a great job stressing positive choices essential for making appropriate decisions in life. The month was rounded out with my participation in the Memorial Day festivities. It was a great honor to speak and show my respect and gratitude to those who have served, and are still serving this wonderful country of ours.

With June came the 30th Annual Strawberry Festival, which was again a wonderfully successful event. It is always a joy to see everyone along the parade route. Being involved with the judging, participating in the opening events, and chairing the Golden Couple event were all things that made the festival a grand experience for me, and participating in the Ribbon Cutting of the Gazebo was just the icing on the cake. I was also given the honor of presenting the awards at the Strawberry Festival Soccer Tournament. On June 18, I experienced another very proud moment in my life; the addition of a daughter to my family when my son married his childhood sweetheart.

In July, there was the wonderful July Fourth Celebration. This celebration was once again fantastic with great weather, and a magnificent fireworks display! On July 9, I was again invited to be a “Big Dipper” and help serve ice cream for the Troy Museum of History. I served up several “dips”, and had a great time talking to everyone who attended. I was also honored with the request to attend the Summer Lunch Program and read a book to the youngsters. This is always a lot of fun for me. On July 22, Troy hosted the first annual Troy Classic on the Square, a bike race through the streets of our downtown. Participants came from all across the United States to participate in this great event, and they look forward to coming back again next year.

August started with the Annual National Night Out. This year’s event was bigger and better than last year. I couldn’t believe the participation from all of the organizations and citizens in attendance. This event is fast growing, and one that the citizens truly enjoy. Thanks to Tom Kirkham and his great committee of volunteers, it was once again a tremendous success. On August 9, a group of young citizens and two adult chaperones traveled to our Sister City, Takahashi City, Japan for the Student Exchange Program. I know they experienced memories and friendships to last a lifetime. The Festival of Nations also took place in August, and it proved to be the best Festival of Nations event to date. The 10th annual Mayor’s Concert was another wonderful success with beautiful weather, superb music, and an even better attendance than years before. This year, I was privileged to again conduct the performance of Fillmore’s His Honor March. The month ended with my participation in the CASA/GAL Annual Auction. This, too, was a grand event that benefits many in our community.

In September we celebrated National Assisted Living Week. It was wonderful to see our citizens who are living in assisted living facilities. I know that sometimes these folks feel like they have been forgotten; so every chance I get I try to make them feel special and appreciated.

October brought the beginning of the fall events. One of my favorites was judging the Fall Festival costume contest sponsored by the Troy Noon Optimist Club. This allowed me to see some of my former students, and even some of my former student's children. Families can be so creative in costume design! I also had the honor to attend the Eldean Bridge Dedication. I was very pleased to see this beautiful landmark preserved.

On November 11, I had the privilege of being part of a group honoring some well deserving ladies who served during WWII. They may not have worn a military uniform, but they were just as important in the war effort. This group of ladies called themselves the Troy Junior Girls Canteen, and they greeted service men and women by serving food and drink as they passed through our City on the train. November also held the decoration of the Public Square and levee for the Christmas season. There were numerous trees covered with lights, various lighted scenes at the Paul G. Duke Park, as well as lights all along the river levee between Adams Street and Market Street. There were lights at East Main Street, at East Franklin Street, and in the Mayor's Park on West Main Street. This year's

Christmas Tree and lights seemed brighter and more beautiful than ever!! We were even honored by the Dayton Daily News Christmas Tree "Smackdown" contest as the #1 Christmas Tree in the Miami Valley! During the evening of the tree lighting, the traditional reading of "Twas the Night Before Christmas" was held with a little twist to make it more of a home town tale, and the annual Holiday Parade was the "Star at the Top of the Tree!" The holiday season also included the Home for the Holidays concert at Hobart Arena, which was outstanding again this year. Our First Night Celebration was held on December 31 in downtown Troy. It was truly fitting to have our "Strawberry Countdown" welcome in 2007!

December also saw the first semester DARE Graduations for many of our schools. This program involves the area fifth graders.

I was privileged to be asked to serve as Honorary Chairperson for both the Alzheimer's and MS Walks. Both of these functions benefit those with specific associated health issues. I look forward to supporting both of these organizations in the future.

Other events that I attended during the year included walking and assisting in the organization of the Dr. Martin Luther King Day Celebration Program. I also participated in various events that the Veterans initiate to demonstrate patriotism. Being the "Voice of the Trojans" at home football games was something I truly enjoyed. I also participated in the Troy-Piqua football pre-game rally. There are many more events that I participated in, but they are too numerous to mention.

March was the beginning of the Senior Citizens Forum at the Troy Senior Citizens Center. This was a monthly meeting in which we covered different topics of interest to our Senior Citizens.

In April we received the resignation of Director of Public Service and Safety David Anderson. In my quandary of locating a replacement to this position, Arthur “Ozzie” Haddad agreed to fill in as the Interim Director of Public Service and Safety until the position could be filled on a more permanent basis; in my opinion, Mr. Haddad proved to be a Godsend!

The retirement of Shawn Gainer on January 23, 2006 started the 2006 retirement ball rolling. Following in Police Officer Gainer’s footsteps were Foreman/Master Electrician John Chaney, Automotive Mechanic Rodney Kemp, Foreman William Myers, Fire Fighter Tim Pierce, Fire Chief John Denney, and Parking Control Officer Wayne Crow. All of these gentlemen took a wealth of knowledge and experience with them. We were very sorry to see them leave, but wish them much luck and happiness in their retirement.

The Mayor’s Youth Council continued during 2006 with each elementary school in the City having a representative chosen by the school principal. Their term also carried into the 6th grade building. This group of young people met monthly, got to know one another, served meals at the St. Patrick Soup Kitchen, participated in the Strawberry Festival Parade, the 2006 Festival of Nations Parade and the Tree Lighting Ceremony. In November, a new group of 5th grade students were chosen. After discussing the plans with the advisors, Craig and Jane Wise and Rob and Julie Morrison I see that they have some great plans for 2007. Under the direction of these four individuals, I know that the group will continue to flourish as it has through the years!

The Senior Advisory Council, otherwise known as the Scarlet and Grey Committee, continued to meet in 2006. This a group of seven senior citizens covering all aspects of life met quarterly in the Mayor’s Office to discuss various topics and concerns pertinent to our community. Each quarter certain topics were discussed, and guests with input related to that topic (i.e. Superintendent Tom Dunn, Stan Kegley and Sue Knight) were invited to attend. This Council is a community “think-tank” with a wealth of ideas and experience.

In conjunction with Troy Main Street, the “Mayor’s Round Table” committee continued to meet on a monthly basis. This committee consists of the Director of Troy Main Street, representatives from the Downtown Business Owners Association, the Director of the Chamber of Commerce and his assistant, the Development Director, the Director of Public Service and Safety, a Council representative, and myself. This committee met to discuss various concerns regarding downtown events, businesses, and safety.

Many people have helped me during 2006. I want to take this opportunity to thank each Council Member, Department Head, Mr. Lohrer, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Haddad, Mr. Dixon, and Mr. Cultice. I have established a positive rapport with our office staff (Sheri Walker, Wandelene Smith), and Council Clerk/Administrative Assistant Sue Knight. I would also like to extend a special thanks to my secretary, Julie Morrison, for her support and assistance. Last, but not least, thanks to my wife, Ginny, for her love, encouragement, support, and assistance during the year.

I would also like to send a special thank you to each and every City Employee for serving the citizens on a daily basis, and keeping the City running. Because of the concern and caring nature of our employees, our citizens enjoy the wonderful quality of life we experience in Troy.

To reflect, 2006 was a very busy year. As we enter 2007 and think about the year 2008, my goals are to:

1. Continue to keep economic development as our number one priority. I will continue to do everything in my power to work with the Troy Development Council and the Dayton region in retaining, expanding, and bringing new businesses and jobs to our region and community. This ensures our City's financial stability.
2. I will also continue the partnership with Troy Schools to keep our youth safe and well educated.
3. I will continue to support our adopted Comprehensive Plan calling for smart housing growth and proper zoning with limited and well planned annexations.
4. I will continue to support our downtown.
5. I will continue to support efforts to keep Troy a clean, well-maintained city.
6. I will continue to promote an open door policy at City Hall by providing accessibility to all department heads, and welcome our citizens to City Hall while encouraging them to address issues with the proper department heads.
7. I will continue to maintain our quality of life, which includes recreational, educational and cultural activities.

8. I will continue to promote efforts that maintain the health and safety of our citizens.

As I enter my fourth year, my ultimate goal is to continue to move forward and provide the very best quality of life for the citizens of Troy. I look forward to working with Mr. Patrick Titterington as our new Public Service and Safety Director.

It has been a very busy and hectic, but productive year. Troy is a wonderful City, a great place to live, work and raise a family. It takes all of us working together to make Troy a great community. 2006 has given us change, challenge, and growth. May the New Year bring completion to some of our goals, good health, prosperity, and peace.

It has been an honor and privilege to represent the City of Troy in my third year as Mayor where "Civic Pride is City Wide."

My warmest wishes to each of you for good health and happiness in 2007.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Beamish
Mayor

MLB:jlmm